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Subject: BNA Daily Environment Report (3-29) Honeywell to Spend \$69 Million to Resolve Alleged Air Act Violations at

Virginia Plant

Honeywell to Spend \$69 Million to Resolve Alleged Air Act Violations at Virginia Plant

By Jessica Coomes

Honeywell Resins and Chemicals LLC agreed to pay a \$3 million civil penalty and spend \$66 million on injunctive relief to resolve alleged Clean Air Act violations at a Virginia chemical plant, according to a proposed consent decree filed March 28 (United States v. Honeywell Resins and Chemicals LLC, E.D. Va., No. 13-193, proposed consent decree 3/28/13).

Honeywell agreed to improve air pollution control equipment at its plant in Hopewell, Va., including installing selective catalytic reduction equipment and implementing an enhanced leak detection and repair program at the facility.

The settlement, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, would resolve allegations the facility violated emissions limits for nitrogen oxides, benzene, volatile organic compounds, and particulate matter and did not upgrade pollution control equipment, the Justice Department and Environmental Protection Agency said.

The company also failed to detect and repair leaks of hazardous air pollutants and to develop safeguards on benzene waste, the Justice Department and EPA said.

The Hopewell plant produces caprolactam used in the production of nylon and ammonium sulfate used for fertilizer, according to the government.

The improvement projects are expected to reduce nitrogen oxides emissions by 6,260 tons annually and air toxics emissions by 100 tons.

The settlement is subject to a 30-day public comment period.

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